

## San Joaquin Valley Regional Pro Per Task Force

### Survey of Costs to Litigants of Appearing in Court

Instructions to interviewers – Approach self-represented litigants as they leave a family law courtroom. Do not try to approach persons who are clearly angry or upset. A good sample will be from 30 to 50 completed interviews. Please record any explanation given by the litigant that would prove helpful in analyzing this information.

Introduction: The Merced Superior Court desires to improve its services to litigants. We are interested in determining the costs to litigants of coming to court. We are not recording your name or case number; therefore this information cannot be used in any way to influence the outcome of your case.

1. Did you have to take off work to come to court today? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, how many hours of work will you miss? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your hourly salary? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Did you incur any child care costs to come to court today that you would not otherwise have to pay?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, how much will that child care cost you? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Approximately how many miles did you have to travel to get to court and to return to your home or business?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Have you had to pay for anything else associated with this court visit, for instance bus fare, parking, lunch, copies of records, etc?

If yes, what did you have to pay for and how much did you pay?

Item	Cost
Total	

Thank you very much for providing this information to the court.